

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 7-8 and 19.

Please cancel Claims 25-31.

The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~TNF α -mediated disease which results in joint stiffness a pathology associated with increased TNF α concentrations relative to normal levels in the joints in a human in need thereof~~ comprising administering to the human an effective TNF α -inhibiting amount of an anti-TNF α antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof, said antibody comprising a human constant region, wherein said anti-TNF α antibody or antigen-binding fragment (i) competitively inhibits binding of A2 (ATCC Accession No. PTA-7045) to human TNF α , and (ii) binds to a neutralizing epitope of human TNF α *in vivo* with an affinity of at least 1×10^8 liter/mole, measured as an association constant (Ka), as determined by Scatchard analysis.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~TNF α -mediated disease which results in joint stiffness a pathology associated with increased TNF α concentrations relative to normal levels in the joints in a human in need thereof~~ comprising administering to the human an effective TNF α -inhibiting amount of anti-TNF α or antigen-binding fragment thereof, said antibody comprising a human IgG1 constant region, wherein said anti-TNF α antibody or antigen-binding fragment (i) competitively inhibits binding of A2 (ATCC Accession No. PTA-7045) to human TNF α , and (ii) binds to a neutralizing epitope of human TNF α *in vivo* with an affinity of at least 1×10^8 liter/mole, measured as an association constant (Ka), as determined by Scatchard analysis.

Claims 4-6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~TNF α -mediated disease which results in joint stiffness a pathology associated with increased TNF α concentrations relative to normal levels in the joints~~ in a human in need thereof comprising administering to the human an effective TNF α -inhibiting amount of an anti-TNF α antibody, wherein said anti-TNF α antibody comprises a human constant region and a non-human variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.:3 and SEQ ID NO.:5.
8. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~TNF α -mediated disease which results in joint stiffness a pathology associated with increased TNF α concentrations relative to normal levels in the joints~~ in a human in need thereof comprising administering to the human an effective TNF α -inhibiting amount of an anti-TNF α antibody, wherein said anti-TNF α antibody comprises an IgG1 human constant region and a non-human variable region comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.:3 and SEQ ID NO.:5.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the non-human variable region comprises a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.:2 and SEQ ID NO.: 4.
10. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the non-human variable region comprises a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.:2 and SEQ ID NO.: 4.

Claims 11-13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said anti-TNF α antibody is administered to the human by means of parenteral administration.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said anti-TNF α antibody is administered to the human by means of intravenous administration.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said anti-TNF α antibody is administered to the human by means of subcutaneous administration or intramuscular administration.
17. (Canceled).
18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said TNF α -inhibiting amount of the anti-TNF α antibody comprises a single or divided dose of about 0.1 - 50 mg/kg.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 18 wherein said single or divided dose is one selected from the group consisting of: ~~about a 0.1 - 1 mg/kg dose, about a 1.0 - 5 mg/kg dose, about a 5 - 10 mg/kg dose and about a 10 - 20 mg/kg dose 0.5, 0.9, 1, 1.1, 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 15 mg/kg per day on at least one of day 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 or 30 or at least one of week 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20.~~
20. (Canceled).
21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said antigen-binding fragment is selected from the group consisting of Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂ and Fv.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding fragment is of immunoglobulin class IgA, IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4 or IgM.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding fragment comprises a human constant region and a human variable region.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody or antigen-binding fragment comprises at least one human light chain and at least one human heavy chain.

Claims 25-31. (Canceled).